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Germany

Livestock and Products

New Case of Hog Cholera in Germany

2002

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Report Highlights:

A new case of hog cholera in domestic pigs was confirmed in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate. The inoculation program for wild boars will be extended to the Pfalz region (southern part of Rhineland-Palatinate)

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Berlin [GM1], GM

On September 16, 2002 the responsible veterinary office confirmed a case of hog cholera (classical swine fever of domestic pigs) in the Landkreis (county) of Donnersbergkreis in Rhineland-Palatinate. The outbreak appeared on a breeding farm, contact with wild boars is assumed as source of contamination. The following protection measures were taken:

- The whole stock of the farm where the disease appeared (321 pigs), stocks of six farms that had received pigs from the farm of outbreak (1800 fattening pigs), were destroyed.
- A 3 km belt around the farm of outbreak has been put under quarantine (affecting 16 farms).
- A 10 km belt has been put under observation with restrictions on the movement of pigs and pork meat (affecting 66 farms with a total of about 6,500 pigs).

Hog cholera/classical swine fever is a viral disease with an incubation period of 1 to 3 weeks.

At the earliest, random clinical serological tests of animals in the quarantine/observation area may be carried out 30 days after culling and disinfection of the farm of outbreak. Measures will be lifted, once tests show that there are no more positive results to the virus.

Infected wild boars have previously been a problem and had caused hog cholera outbreaks in domestic pigs before. In January 2002, a case of hog cholera was detected in the Landkreis Bitburg-Prüm. As a consequence in February in the north-western part (Eifel region) of Rhineland-Palatinate test inoculation program for wild boars was started. The budget for the inoculations program is about 1.5 million Euro for 2002. It proved to be successful. The bait was accepted by the boars and about half of all shot boars showed the presence of anti-bodies. Therefore, at the beginning of September, it was decided to extend the inoculation program to the region *Pfalz*, with a budget of 750,00 Euro. Placing of bait is scheduled to start in February 2003.